

Message Text

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10

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 IO-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-07 AID-05

CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04

USIA-15 SAM-01 OES-05 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 PA-02

PRS-01 NEA-10 ARA-10 /148 W
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R 240813Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY BERN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1894

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN ENRG SZ

SUBJ: SWISS PRESS REACTION TO CIEC AND JOLLES PRESS CONFERENCE

1. GERMAN AND FRENCH LANGUAGE SWISS PRESS DEVOTED EXTENSIVE DAILY COVERAGE TO CIEC MINISTERIAL. OVER THE WEEKEND, VIRTUALLY ALL SWISS NEWSPAPERS CARRIED EDITORIAL COMMENT EXPRESSING VIEW THAT CIEC WAS GOOD BEGINNING TO A DIFFICULT BUT ESSENTIAL DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE RICH AND POOR COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD. THE INFLUENTIAL, CONSERVATIVE NEUE ZURCHER ZEITUNG REFERRED TO THE POLITICAL NATURE OF THE CONFERENCE AND SAID THAT WHILE THE CONFERENCE DEALT MOSTLY WITH PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS, DEFINITE PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE. IN THE NZZ'U VIEW, THE INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES HAVE BEGUN TO MAKE CONCESSIONS TO POOR COUNTRIES, BUT THIS IS NOT SOMETHING TO BE HIDDEN OR CRITICIZED. THE NZZ POINTED OUT, HOWEVER, THAT WHILE THE DEMANDS OF THE POOR WILL BE "MASSIVE", THE FUTURE COURSE OF NEGOTIATIONS MUST TAKE ACCOUNT OF ECONOMIC REALITIES.

2. BERN'S DER BUND APPLAUDED SWISS PARTICIPATION IN WHAT PROMISES TO BE LONG AND DIFFICULT NEGOTIATIONS. DER BUND CAUTIONED, HOWEVER, THAT THE RICH COUNTRIES MAY NOT FULLY APPRECIATE THE NEEDS OF THE POOR AND THE DANGERS OF CONFRONTATION. THE ARROGANCE OF THE POOR COUNTRIES, ON THE OTHER HAND, DOES NOT MAKE IT EASY FOR THE INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES TO DO WHAT IS NECESSARY.

3. THE JOURNAL DE GENEVE CALLED THE FORMATION OF THE FOUR COMMISSIONS A POSITIVE RESULT AND THE BEGINNING OF AN EPOCH MAKING COUNCIL TO DEAL WITH A RANGE OF ECONOMIC PROBLEMS WHICH HAVE BEEN DEBATED IN VARIOUS FORUMS SINCE END OF WWII. ACCORDING TO THE JOURNAL, THE BASIC PROBLEM IS NOT ONE OF EQUAL DISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH BUT OF EQUAL DISTRIBUTION OF WORK. THE SOLUTION IS NOT MERELY FINANCIAL BUT WILL

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REQUIRE CHANGES IN BEHAVIOR AND CONVICTION IN ALL COUNTRIES.

4. AFTER RETURNING FROM PARIS, DIVISION OF COMMERCE DIRECTOR PAUL JOLLES, ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL SWISS DELEGATES TO THE CIEC, TOLD REPORTERS THAT HE WAS DOUBLY SATISFIED WITH THE OUTCOME OF THE CIEC. HE WAS SATISFIED IN GENERAL TERMS WITH THE POSITIVE RESULTS OF OPENING THE DIALOGUE BETWEEN INDUSTRIALIZED

AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND OF ESTABLISHING THE FOUR COMMISSIONS TO CARRY ON THE WORK. THE OBJECTIVES OF THE PRELIMINARY MEETINGS OF APRIL AND OCTOBER WERE MET, AND DURING THE CONFERENCE ALL THE PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES RECOGNIZED THE NEED TO READAPT THEIR ECONOMIC RELATIONS. HE WAS ALSO SATISFIED WITH THE RESULTS OF SWISS PARTICIPATION; AMBASSADOR JOLLES SAW SWITZERLAND'S MEMBERSHIP IN THE ENERGY AND FINANCE COMMISSIONS AS AN IMPLICIT RECOGNITION OF SWITZERLAND'S IMPORTANT ROLE IN WORLD ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL MATTERS. HE SAID THAT THERE ARE MANY PROBLEMS TO BE SOLVED, AND THE DIALOGUE WILL BE LONG AND HARD, BUT SWITZERLAND IS CONSCIOUS OF THE NEED FOR CHANGE.

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